

Memorandum  
City Council Office



**DATE:** December 6, 2001  
**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Barb Carter, Councilmember  
**SUBJECT:** Tempe Women's Commission

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It is with great excitement and anticipation that I am bringing forward this proposal for a Tempe Women's Commission.

I hope you will take the time to read the proposal portion to familiarize yourself with the justification for creating this proposed commission.

Please contact me at (480) 350-8794. If you would like to discuss this issue in more detail and/or if you have any questions regarding this information.

Thank you.

Barb

cc: Will Manley  
Patrick Flynn

## **Proposed Purpose**

**To provide advocacy, consultation and support on a variety of issues facing women of all ages, race, cultural and educational backgrounds. The Tempe Women's Commission shall enhance the quality of life for women in our community. The Tempe Women's Commission would not make policy decisions, only influence policy through recommendations to Mayor and Council.**

**The Commission could be involved in the following:**

- **Identifying and defining the concerns of women.**
- **Advising the Mayor and Council on issues of importance to women.**
- **Increasing public awareness on issues and their solutions.**
- **Facilitating communication and cooperation with women and women's groups to ensure effective collaboration.**
- **Work with the Human Relations Commission, Tempe Community Council and other boards and commission on various issues.**
- **Promoting the participation of women in civic and public affairs.**
- **Encourage women to use their capabilities and assume leadership roles.**
- **Coordinate the efforts of numerous women's organizations interested in the welfare of women.**
- **Identify and recognize contributions made by Tempe women to the community, state and nation.**
- **Work toward elimination of social, economic and legal barriers which prevent women from succeeding.**
- **Advise the City on types of legislation that impact the women of Tempe.**
- **Identifying general health issues.**
- **Recognizing support groups and incentive programs for doing business with Tempe.**
- **Promoting minority and women owned businesses.**

**Other possible areas of work for the Commission:**

- **Scholarship program for young women**
- **Women's forums.**
- **Networking opportunities.**
- **Establish chamber relationships**

- **Participation in the National Association of Commission for Women.**
- **Create educational brochures for women.**
- **Publish information guides for women consisting of legal services and judicial information, eating disorders, etc.**
- **Create web page.**

**Possible Priorities:**

- 1. Available quality and affordable child care throughout Tempe.**

**Of working women in America today, 72 percent have children under 18, and 65 percent have children under the age of 6. What will those numbers be in 2025?**

- 2. Reduce the number of abused women, plus an increase in resources to address the problem of domestic violence.**
- 3. Address pay equity for women and development of successful women-owned businesses.**

**Today, women earn 70cents for every dollar earned by men.**

- 4. Focus on the education of girls and women of all ages.**
  - **Which includes reducing the school dropout and teen pregnancy rates.**
  - **Promote education beyond high school for every girl who wants to pursue a career.**
  - **Ensure that women and girls no longer lag in math, physical science and technology.**
  - **Establish mentoring programs and positive role models.**
  - **Increase female voter turnout rates.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2001. \_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEMPE, ARIZONA, AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE V, TEMPE CITY CODE, RELATING TO PANELS, COMMISSIONS, ETC. BY ADDING DIVISION 15; ESTABLISHING THE TEMPE WOMEN'S COMMISSION AND PRESCRIBING ITS MEMBERSHIP, POWERS AND DUTIES.**

WHEREAS, the City recognizes a need to provide advocacy, consultation and support on a variety of issues facing women of all ages, race, cultural and educational backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes a need to create a Tempe Women's Commission to recognize and honor the contributions of women in our community; and

WHEREAS, this Commission will be the organizing body for City activities that promote women's issues both within the organization and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Commission is to enhance the awareness of women's issues in the City, celebrate the accomplishments of women in improving our community and provide informational and educational opportunities for the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEMPE, ARIZONA, as follows:

That Chapter 2, Article V of the Tempe City Code is hereby amended by adding Division 15 to read as follows:

**DIVISION 15. TEMPE WOMEN'S COMMISSION**

**Sec. 2-315. Established.**

There is hereby established the Tempe women's commission to be composed of fifteen (15) members.

**Sec. 2-316. Appointment of members; terms of office.**

(a) The fifteen (15) members of the Tempe women's commission shall be selected by the mayor with the approval of the city council.

(b) The terms of office of all commission members shall commence on the first day of January of each year and end on the 31st day of December, three (3) years thereafter. Such terms shall be staggered so that no more than five (5) members shall conclude in any given year. An initial transition commission will be created of five (5) members for a one year term, five (5)

members for a two (2) year term and five (5) members for a three (3) year term.

(c) Members of the commission may not serve more than two (2) complete consecutive terms. Any vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term of the member whose office is vacant in the same manner as such member received original appointment.

(d) The mayor with the approval of the city council may remove any member of the commission for cause.

#### **Sec. 2-317. Compensation.**

Members of the Tempe women's commission shall receive no compensation for their services as commission members.

#### **Sec. 2-318. Staff representative.**

The city manager or his designee shall serve the Tempe women's commission in an advisory capacity.

#### **Sec. 2-319. Officers.**

The initial officers of the commission shall be selected by the Mayor, with the approval of the city council. Thereafter, the officers of the commission shall be selected by the commission members at the first meeting of the commission following the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December each year and shall serve from January 1 until the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December of the next succeeding year. No officer may serve in the same capacity for more than three (3) consecutive one-year terms.

#### **Sec. 2-320. Powers and duties.**

The Tempe women's commission shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) To establish such rules and regulations as it deems necessary for commission regulation and for the faithful performance of its duties; by vote to set a time for regular meetings which shall be held at least once each month if there is business to transact; to establish the manner in which special meetings may be held and the notice to be given thereof; and to provide that eleven (11) members will constitute a quorum. The affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum shall be required for passage of any matter before the commission;
- (2) To require attendance of the members at regular meetings and provide that absence from three (3) consecutive regular meetings without consent of the commission shall be deemed to constitute the resignation of such member and such position shall thereupon be deemed vacant;
- (3) To advise and consult, through the chairman of the commission, with the designated staff person as to the items to be included on the agenda of meetings

prior to the preparation and distribution of the agenda;

- (4) To review and approve the official minutes of all commission meetings prior to the transmittal of such minutes to the city council;
- (5) To promote and improve programs and employment opportunities, including recruitment, hiring, placement and salary equity for women;
- (6) To assist and advise the mayor and city council and city departments on ways in which information on women's issues can be disseminated including conducting surveys and studies, convening forums, seminars and workshops, and sponsoring special events and award recognition;
- (7) To participate in special projects and programs as needed based on issues affecting women in our community; and
- (8) To provide leadership in promoting women's issues including the International Convention on the Discrimination Against Women.

**Secs. 2-321—2-324. Reserved.**

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEMPE,  
ARIZONA, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney